NOTE XXVII.

ON A NEW GENUS AND SPECIES OF MUS FROM MADAGASCAR.

BY

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Up to the present time the different travellers have found in Madagascar the following *Muridae*, viz: *Mus indicus*, *rattus* and *musculus*, and the very interesting *Hypogeomys antimena*. The first three species are probably introduced by vessels, whilst *Hypogeomys antimena* is peculiar to Madagascar.

Last month our Museum received a large collection of Mammals, Birds, a. s. o. gathered in that island by Mr. J. Audebert, in which collection there were *three* specimens of Mice, which clearly belong to a new species, nay to a new genus. For showing the general size and dentition of *Mus decumanus*, the hind feet are highly enlarged, the ears longer, and the tip for about one sixth the lenght of the tail is ornated with pure white hairs.

Hallomys Audeberti, n. g. et n. sp.

General tint of the rather short and very soft fur olivaceous as in *Pelomys fallax*, *Mus abyssinicus*, *variegatus* and *vittatus*. The fur of head, upper parts and sides of

body, in and outsides fo forearms and thighs slate-colored near the base, on the head, back and sides of the body each hair having a black tip, separated from the slate-coloured base by a rather broad yellowish brown ring; whilst the hairs of the fore-arms and thighs are only broadly tipped with reddish brown: intermixed are some entirely black ones. Chin, lower parts of cheeks, throat, chest, and middle of belly and abdomen pure white: along the sides of that white streak the hairs are colored like those of the forearms and thighs. Hairs of hands and feet dark brown. Whiskers black, tho foremost pure white. The hairs of the upper parts of the tail near its root are black, for the rest they are uniformly brown, except those of the tip of the fail, which are pure white.

Ears oblong and broadly naked, blackish brown, well rounded towards the tip.

Whiskers very long, projecting beyond the tip of the ear; the foremost are short.

Tail closely behaired, shorter than head and body.

The feet are comparatively much longer and more developed than in any other species of Mice hitherto known, nay comparatively longer than in the much larger *Hypogeomys antimena* — thus showing its leaping habit. — The toes also resemble those of *Pedetes*, *Scirtetes* and *Meriones*, the three middle toes — and especially the midmost — being very elongated. The outerones are much shorter and attached very high up: the first toe is the shortest. The fingers also are more developed than usually, the thumb is the shortest, the third finger the longest, the second and fourth finger being of the same size.

The claws of the fingers about half the size of those of the feet; the latter being very strong. Long curved rigid hairs, growing at the root of the nails, are overhanging the almost straight claws. The claws are brownish white colored.

Cutting-teeth smooth, white towards the points; upper ones brownish orange, lower ones yellowish.

The skeleton presents the following number of vertebrae, viz: 13 costales, with 13 costae, 7 lumbares, 2 sacrales and 33 caudales.

Measures of an adult male —

	m. m.
Head and body	230
Tail	190
Ear	23
Hind foot with claws	57
Length skull	51
Width skull	26
Length upper molar series	8
Distance between incisor and first upper molar	13.5
" " " " " lower "	7

Hab: Maisine and Savary. — N. E. Madagascar (J. Audebert).

As the above described species belongs to the first new genus, discoverd by Mr. J. Audebert, I take advantage of the opportunity in calling it after this naturalist.